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WYOMING NATIONAL FOREST

WYOMING



1940



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

WYOMING

NATIONAL FOREST

WYOMING

Welcome!

SIGNS erected at the entrances to the Wyoming National Forest bid welcome to all visitors. That welcome, however, goes far beyond the signs, and into every city, village, and hamlet. There is something within this magnificent forest for every citizen of the country. The scenic grandeur of the lofty mountains and wooded slopes, the placid lakes and dashing streams, together with wildlife and recreation retreats, all within the forest boundaries, are for use and enjoyment of the whole people.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION OGDEN, UTAH

MF-31 R. 4

COVER PHOTO.—*Green River Lake, in the heart
of the Rockies—a calm retreat of unsurpassed beauty.*

F-280937



F-349432

Trail riders pitching camp in the Bridger Wilderness Area.

ATOP THE CONTINENT

HIgh up on the west slope of the Wind River Mountains and atop the Wyoming and Salt River Ranges, spurs of the main range of the Rockies, lies the Wyoming National Forest. This area, twice the size of Rhode Island and overlooked by peaks more than 13,000 feet in elevation, is truly on top of the continent.

Water from its slopes drains north, east, south, and west, eventually becoming part of one ocean, two gulfs, and one inland lake. To the north and west are Greys River and Salt River, important tributaries of the Snake which meanders on to the Columbia River and thence to the Pacific Ocean. Water from the drainage on the east finds its way into the Sweetwater River, a branch of the Platte which reaches the Gulf of Mexico via the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. To the south is Green River, part of the Colorado River system, the water from which empties into Lake Mead above Boulder Dam and finally reaches the Gulf of California. Smiths Fork, which also begins on this forest, flows into Bear River which, in turn, empties its waters into Great Salt Lake.

This booklet describes briefly the resources and attractions of the Wyoming National Forest, its use by the public, and plan of management as administered by the Forest Service.

RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC USE

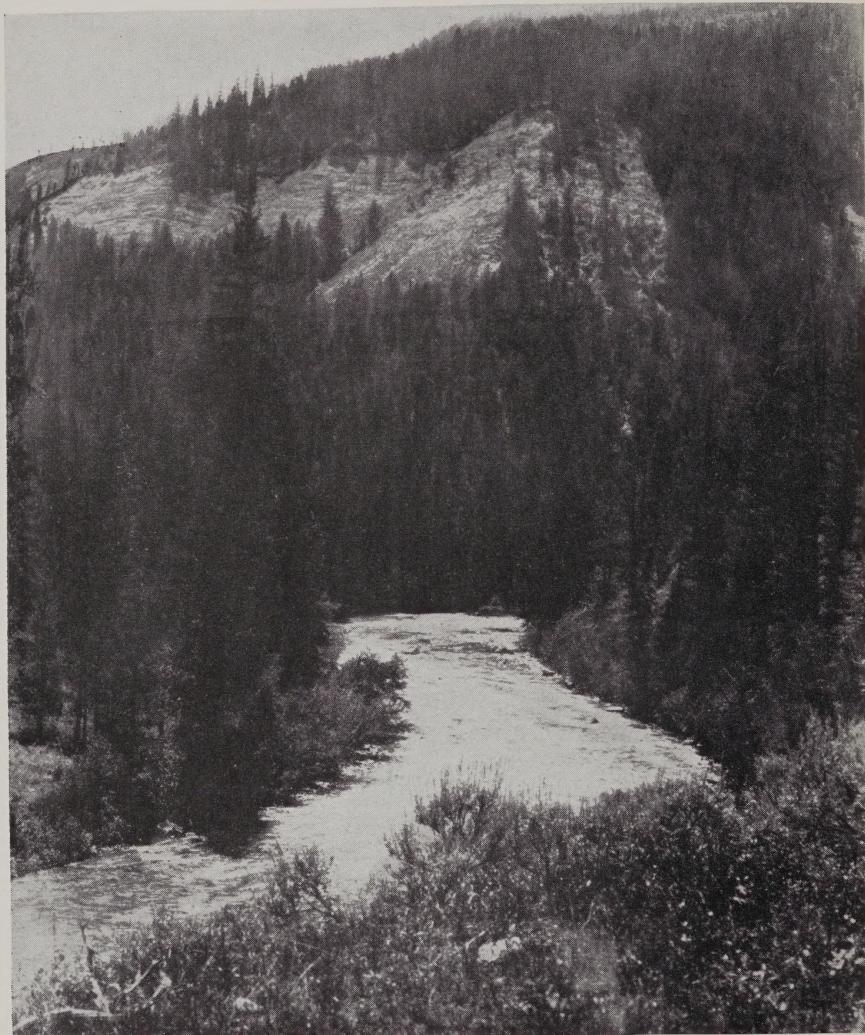
Rich natural resources on the Wyoming National Forest, including timber, forage, water, recreation features, and wildlife, are available for the use and benefit of the general public under management by the Forest Service.

Because so many communities and industries depend upon the forest area for irrigation, domestic, and hydroelectric water supplies, watershed protection is necessarily a primary objective of the management program. All uses made of this forest, therefore, are so directed as to maintain a permanent vegetative cover of trees and forage plants on the mountain slopes.

All cutting of timber is on a continuous yield basis, which means that mature trees are cut only when others young and thrifty are established to replace those harvested. Thus a growing forest crop is always on the land, insuring coming generations against a timber shortage.

Permits to use the forage resource are issued to livestock operators in adjacent communities, who graze their sheep and cattle on the forest

Wyoming National Forest



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Greys River, with its riffles and bends, skirted with fir, spruce, and lodgepole pine, allure thousands of recreationists each year.

according to plans designed to conserve and improve the forage crop on a perpetual basis from season to season.

Likewise, the harvesting of a wildlife crop, including elk, deer, mountain sheep, game birds, fish, and fur bearers, is coordinated with the carrying capacity of the forest and the wildlife population.

Wyoming National Forest

Visitors are encouraged to use the forest for recreation purposes and to cooperate in preserving the natural beauty of the area for others to enjoy.

FOREST HAS COLORFUL HISTORY

From its earliest pioneer days the history of the Wyoming National Forest is replete with colorful episodes. Many years ago the Upper Green River area was a favorite hunting ground where Indians from near and far gathered during the summer months to hunt buffalo and other wild game. Early trappers and fur traders were also attracted by the abundance of game in this locality. Because mutual interests centered around this favorite area, the "Green River Rendezvous" in the vicinity of old Fort Bonneville was the gathering place at the close of each trapping season for Indians and fur traders of the Intermountain Region, and became a lucrative trading spot. Numerous tales are told concerning the manner in which the bartering, often involving gunplay and "firewater," was conducted. The site of this interesting rendezvous, just north of the present town of Daniel near the convergence of U S 89 and 187, is marked by a monument erected where once stood Fort Bonneville.

Early western settlers and traders who used the old Oregon and Lander Trails climbed over South Pass adjacent to the Bridger Division of the Wyoming. The trails separated west of South Pass with the Oregon Trail



F-372554

One mile east of Daniel, this monument marks the spot where Father Pierre De Smet, on July 5, 1840, offered the first Holy Mass in Wyoming.

Wyoming National Forest

crossing Green River about 45 miles north of Kemmerer near Names Hill. On this hill many of the old timers carved their names in the soft sandstone and from this early-day register it derives its name. After scores of years the visitor can still read those fading records of a time when western history was in the making.

It was for the construction of the Lander Cut-off on the old Oregon Trail that the Government made the first highway building appropriations in the Rockies. In hewing and blasting their roadbeds through this portion of the forest, Government engineers followed the oldest known trail across these mountains.

When white men first set foot in the Green River Valley, the route they followed was well marked by countless years of travel by Indians and buffaloes. The Astorians returning from the Columbia River country in 1812, under the leadership of a rugged young Scotsman, Robert Stuart,

CODE OF GOOD SPORTSMEN

1. There is more honor in giving the game a square deal than in getting the limit.
2. Help enforce the game laws. Game and fish are public property—for the enjoyment of both yourself and the fellow who comes after you. Violations of game laws should be reported to the nearest deputy game warden or forest ranger.
3. Respect the ranchman's property. Do not leave his gates open, break down his fences, disturb his stock, or shoot near his dwelling. Put yourself in his place. Ask his permission to hunt on his premises.
4. Be careful with your campfire and matches. One tree will make a million matches; one match can burn a million trees.
5. Leave a clean camp.
6. Put out all forest fires, if possible, as soon as they are discovered. If you cannot put them out, report them promptly to the nearest forest officer.

Wyoming National Forest



F-216370

With ax, saw, broadax, and spud the tiehack turns out finished hewed railroad ties from the mature trees in the Wyoming National Forest.

attempted to travel this trail. Indians had informed them that a short cut could be taken over the Salt River Range of mountains and through Green River Valley and South Pass to the Sweetwater. They traveled up Salt River and onto the headwaters of Smiths Fork of the Bear River, and finally arrived at the head of Greys River. By mistake they took the trail down this stream to the Snake. Having drifted off the regular route, they wandered north through Teton Pass and into the Jackson Hole country, wintering finally on the headwaters of the Green River.

The Lander Trail crossed Green River in the vicinity of the present site of Big Piney, and from there continued through the southern end of the present Wyoming Forest by way of Snider Basin, LaBarge Creek, Smiths Fork, and Star Valley.

Along these old routes of travel are still many mute reminders of the adventures and hardships of the western pioneers. In the timber and meadow areas of Snider Basin and LaBarge Creek is evidence that the emigrant trains took time out for rest and recuperation after their long journey across the plains. An interesting old tree still stands in Snider Basin, and, judging from the number of rusty ox shoes and bits of scrap iron beneath its branches,

Wyoming National Forest

it was there "The Village Smithy" stood. On these beautiful meadows, also, weathered markers or crude inscriptions on trees commemorate the disasters of the colorful pioneer days.

Not all the efforts of the pioneers in this area were for profit or gain—holy men also followed the dusty, dangerous trails. One mile east of Daniel and a little to the north of the Lander Trail crossing of Green River, a monument marks the spot where Father Pierre J. De Smet, on July 5, 1840, said the first Holy Mass in the State of Wyoming.

TIMBER A REGULAR CROP

Although the original lures, products of the rich hunting grounds, were valued in terms of exchanges at the rendezvous for hunters, trappers, and Indians, the present assets of the Wyoming National Forest are the vast areas of timber, luxuriant grazing grounds for livestock, abundant wildlife, and wilderness recreation retreats.

Standing within the forest boundaries is enough timber to build 250,000 six-room frame houses. The principal species are lodgepole pine, Douglas fir, alpine fir, and Engelmann spruce. At the present time mature trees of all these species are being manufactured by local sawmills into lumber and farm timbers to supply nearby markets. Farmers and ranchers may buy at nominal prices products from the forest for building purposes. Large tracts of timber not needed in the local communities are sold to the highest bidders.

Eight small sawmills cut annually about a million board feet of timber to supply the demand from the ranches and towns. In addition to satisfying local needs, the forest furnishes from 250,000 to 300,000 ties annually for use in the railroad tracks of the Nation. Lodgepole pine is used principally for this purpose.

The tiehack with his broadax is a colorful figure in the Wyoming woods. Except for a brief period in the spring, he works year-long hewing ties, living in a little log shanty, maybe with a partner, getting his supplies from the "commissary." When the spring drive is on, he leaves the woods to help the rushing waters of the swollen creeks deliver thousands of ties to the

*BE EXTRA CAREFUL WITH FIRE, CIGARETTES,
AND MATCHES—ALWAYS URGE OTHERS TO
BE CAREFUL—ALWAYS*

Wyoming National Forest

Green River and eventually to the main line railroad far down the valley. The drive completed, the tiehack wanders back to the woods to begin again the task of chopping ties for the railroads of the West.

The objective in handling timber stands on the Wyoming Forest is to supply valuable products for human needs and at the same time maintain in a satisfactory condition all the resources of the forest. Good forestry



F-345614

Getting railroad ties from the Wyoming National Forest ready for the drive downstream.

means the use of mature trees first, and these generally are marked for cutting by forest officers. This practice leaves the young and thrifty trees to grow, keeping the land productive and creating a timber supply for the future. On the Wyoming it takes about 150 years to grow timber large enough for sawlogs. Tie trees can be grown in 75 to 125 years.

It is estimated that the value of the timber on this forest is about \$5,000,000 as it stands in the tree. When the raw material is made into lumber and ties, it is increased in value tenfold. The increase represents wages paid to employees in the forest industries and the amount spent for supplies and materials. On the forest the lumbering industry employs from 150 to 300 men annually in sawmills and tie camps.

Fully 80 percent of every dollar received in the lumber business is expend-

Wyoming National Forest

ed in the vicinity of the lumber camps for purchases of hay, grain, gasoline, and other supplies. Social as well as industrial conditions of the surrounding communities are materially and permanently benefited by the application of sustained-yield management principles and good forestry practices which assure an indefinite continuation of the lumber business.



F-353954

Fly fishing is a delightful sport on Wyoming streams whose watersheds are protected from forest fires.

WATER FOR MANY USES

More than 1,000 miles above Boulder Dam, as measured along meandering shores, Green River, the colorful and historic tributary of the Colorado, begins to gather its waters from the wild lands of the Wyoming Forest.

The high horseshoe-shaped rim of mountains surrounding the upper Green River Valley is truly the source of much of the water that eventually will find its way into Mead Lake, to the rich lands of Imperial Valley in California, and to the family faucets in Los Angeles homes. The power potential released into tireless turbines along the way also will provide energy to serve great industries and a highly developed civilization.

Wyoming National Forest

In the immediate valley itself as far down as the city of Green River, much water is diverted for irrigation of extensive valley lands.

Were it not for the high watersheds of Upper Green River, the perpetual glaciers and deep snowbanks that last late into each summer season, it is very probable that the river in its lower extreme before it joins the Colorado would become very low during the dry period of each season. The main tributaries of the upper drainage basin, Sandy Creek, New Fork, Cottonwood, Horse Creek, LaBarge, and others can always be depended upon, however, to contribute generous flows to keep the Green River a live and mighty stream of great local and interstate importance. Engineers now propose that surplus Green River waters may be diverted westward to moisten many acres of dry lands in the Bonneville Basin in southern Idaho, and northern and central Utah.

On the Snake River side, Salt and Greys Rivers play an equally important role. Salt River is the heart of Star Valley, a land of rich farms, extensive green meadows, and prosperous mountain communities. Waters of Salt River accumulating from the west slopes of the Salt River range are spread out over much of the broad expanses of Star Valley. Its tributaries likewise are tapped to give pure mountain water to the settlements large and small that are scattered here and there from one valley end to the other.

Little immediate use is made of Greys River waters; however, the river does its share as a feeder to Snake River, for Snake River water, like that of the Colorado, has transformed with its magic, distant and vast desert lands in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington into modern empires.

Thus the watersheds of the Wyoming Forest are truly cosmopolitan in their versatility, influence, and importance. They serve ultimately the people near and far in many ways among at least eight western States.

FORAGE FOR LIVESTOCK AND GAME

In the valleys within and surrounding the Wyoming Forest much of the romance and tradition of the pioneering sheep and cattle days still remains. Short distances away from the roads and highways the many famous cattle ranches on Green River, the cowboys on the range, the sheep herds on the slopes yet hold the old spirit of the west.

*IF YOU DON'T KNOW—ASK THE FOREST
RANGER*

Wyoming National Forest

Many tales are told of the early stock-raising days when might and the six-gun were the law of the range country in the Green River Valley. Cattle were grazed on the open range and were well established there long before sheep were brought into this region. When sheep finally appeared in search of new summer range conflicts began. Range wars were waged for many years as geographical deadlines were established and broken and each side sought to hold or increase its domain of the free and open range. With the coming of the national forests, territorial range disputes were settled, sheep and cattlemen were assigned their own allotments for grazing every year, and peace reigned on the grazing lands of the Wyoming Forest.



F-28170A

Many herds of cattle find ample forage on the slopes of Upper Green River. Such areas help to support a profitable livestock industry.

The country surrounding the Wyoming Forest is mainly a livestock producing area. The extensive farm and ranch lands provide the winter feed and the early and late grazing, and the ranges of the forest now, as for many years, provide the summer forage for large numbers of stock, including at present 27,000 head of cattle and 235,000 sheep. Ranging these animals on the forest utilizes valuable feed resources growing on the fertile mountain slopes. The summer period is the main weight producing time for livestock. For example, lambs entering the forest weigh 35 pounds and go to market 2 or 3 months later weighing 70 to 80 pounds. The Wyoming Forest thus produces each summer about 7 million pounds of choice lamb that even-

Wyoming National Forest

Sheep grazing on the luxuriant range of the Wyoming National Forest.

F-224715



tually goes to nationwide markets. Beef animals gain around 250 pounds each summer season and likewise represent material cash returns to the stockmen.

Management of the forest ranges is conducted on well-established principles. Stock is admitted to grazing only after the vegetation has reached sufficient growth. Beginning in the low country the herds gradually move into higher ranges as the season advances. The numbers of stock are limited to the capacity of the ranges so that continuous grazing from year to year is possible without damage to the forage plants. Just as the rancher manages and keeps in productive state his meadows and croplands, so must the forest rangers handle the wild mountain forage lands, keeping them growing good crops of feed year after year—for livestock and for game.

WILDLIFE A VALUABLE RESOURCE

Much as in the primitive days before Fort Bonneville was established, game animals, fur bearers, and birds inhabit and rove at will the wild country of the Wyoming National Forest. The buffalo that once roamed in great herds across the broad valley of the Green River is gone forever, but deer, elk, bear, moose, and sheep still range in their native mountain habitat. True, the range is more restricted and the number of wild creatures

Wyoming National Forest



F-33327

An elk "snapped" as he paused to graze near the placid waters of Green River Lake. Game animals usually feed in the morning or late in the evening.

is less, but the game herds now are stable and assured of a permanent place in the management of the national-forest resources.

The wild denizens of the forest and wilderness are a valuable asset in this famous Wyoming country. Hunters from all over the Nation come into the area every fall seeking the thrill of the chase, for here at the "top of the continent" is excellent elk, moose, and sheep hunting. Bear, too, are fairly common; and occasionally the furious and dangerous grizzly, now fast vanishing from its last western stronghold, may be seen.

Latest estimates show that the game population of the Wyoming National Forest is about 4,500 elk, 2,000 deer, 350 mountain sheep, 600 moose, and

REPORT FOREST FIRES PROMPTLY

Wyoming National Forest

600 bears, probably conservative numbers for the elusive game creatures which inhabit the vast wilderness domain of a million and a half acres.

The smaller inhabitants of the woods are also present in goodly numbers on the Wyoming, including the beaver, mink, ermine, marten, among the fur bearers, and several species of grouse.

While many of the streams and some of the lakes always supported fish, because of natural barriers much of the ideal trout water in the higher country was always barren of fish life. As a result of the efforts of game wardens, sportsmen, and forest rangers, small fingerling trout were packed over rough trails into these high hidden waters and planted. Now after many years of this work the remote lakes and creeks that can support fish life are well stocked and so the upland regions, especially in the Wind River range, have become a fisherman's paradise. More than a million trout are planted in the streams and lakes of the forest each year.

ROADS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

Since the Wyoming forest is an important public property and its resource values run into millions of dollars, the Forest Service must provide certain essential improvements needed for fire protection and administration. The forest is covered by a network of simple roads that connect



F-335298

Bridges of native timber across the more turbulent streams make trails pleasurable and safe.

with the valley highways and county roads and lead back into the hills. These roads, to the needed extent, make accessible timber stands, grazing allotments, and recreation areas. They are also vital to the fire-protection system in effect on the forest. At the road ends the trails begin and continue on into the most inaccessible and remote parts of the forest domain. These simple routes, lightly marked and often not easy to follow, disturb but little the primitive back country of the distant mountain ranges. They are, however, kept in a passable and serviceable condition by summer maintenance crews. Other improvements include telephone lines, ranger stations, cabins, and facilities needed for recreation at campgrounds.

TRIPS TO POINTS OF INTEREST

Whether the visitor to the Wyoming National Forest is awheel, afoot, or on horseback, numerous features of interest and scenic grandeur await him along the roads and trails or in the more remote areas. A few of those better known are Green River Lake and the glaciers at the head of Green River; the Bridger Wilderness area of large and small lakes from Green River Lake south to Big Sandy Opening, all on the southeast portion of the forest; new Fork Lakes, above Cora, east of the Green River road—fine for fishing; Highland Drive along and above the east shore of Fremont Lake to the Wilderness Overlook and Elkhart Park Camp; Half Moon Lake, 10 miles east of Highway 187 at Pinedale; Greys River, located in

GOOD HEALTH HABITS FOR VISITORS

In the interest of all campers and for the protection of health, the Forest Service suggests the following simple rules:

1. Drinking water.—Most mountain water in streams and springs is pure. Care should be followed, however, in using water from suspected sources.
2. Garbage.—Bury or burn all waste and refuse unless receptacles for disposal are provided.
3. Use the sanitation facilities provided by the Forest Service on campgrounds and elsewhere.
4. Insanitary conditions should be reported to the nearest forest ranger.

Wyoming National Forest

the northwest portion of the forest; Periodic Spring, 7 miles east of Afton, 2 miles of which may be traveled by automobile, the rest on horseback, or by foot, over good trails; the Standard Timber Co. tie camps on LaBarge Creek.

By automobile the famous Green River Lakes at the head of Green River may be reached by leaving State Highway 30 at Rock Springs and follow-



F-353957

Surrounded by giant spruce trees on the Wyoming National Forest, this family enjoys a summer outing near excellent fishing waters.

ing U S 187 to Pinedale, or by leaving State Highway 30 at Kemmerer and following U S 89 to Daniel.

On the trip to the forest from the highway at Kemmerer are such historical attractions as the old Oregon Trail crossing at Names Hill, the old site of Fort Bonneville, and the DeSmet Monument near Daniel. In addition, one may see something of the vast cattle industry on the ranches along the way. Approximately 50,000 cattle make up the herds on the upper Green River Valley ranches.

Wyoming National Forest

The county and forest road to Green River Lakes leaves the highway between Daniel and Pinedale and goes north through Cora. After leaving Cora, the traveler enters the forest in the vicinity of "The Buttes," two beautifully wooded hills at the base of the Wind River Mountains, and the scenic attractions increase. A few miles north, the "Pits," which at one time spouted active geysers, are especially attractive to those interested in geology. At Kendall, a little farther on is the district ranger's headquarters. The road then skirts the south side of Green River and the beauty of the region begins to unveil as the traveler catches occasional glimpses of the river winding among the wooded hills and open meadows. The real scenic thrill of the trip comes upon reaching the lake, which is nestled between two ranges of mountains rising abruptly on either side. Camping at the lake is delightful throughout the summer months. "Old Square Top" is also there, that huge monolith, reflecting its silent sentinel-like profile in the clear waters of Green River Lake.

Many take the auto trip that leads into the Greys River country. The river may be reached by leaving the Oregon Trail Highway at Cokeville and going north through Star Valley, or by taking the road northeast from Idaho Falls, Idaho. From the mouth of Greys River the road follows the stream for 60 miles to the forks on LaBarge Creek. The LaBarge Creek route connects with the highway via Smiths Fork at the south end of Star Valley. A large tie camp is located on the road leading down LaBarge Creek. This route and the one that follows Smiths Fork are very attractive and afford excellent opportunities to enjoy two beautiful streams. The forest visitor will find good fishing, magnificent scenery, and pleasant campgrounds enroute.

The Highland Drive from Pinedale above the east shore of Fremont Lake to the Wilderness Overlook and camp at Elkhart Park is one of the most scenic trips of the Intermountain Forest Service Region. The view of Fremont Peak, which rises majestically 13,730 feet above sea level, is awe-inspiring from the overlook located on the edge of the Bridger Wilderness.

Other automobile trips may be taken to the various lakes and scenic areas.

*THE FOREST YIELDS—HEALTH—WEALTH
SECURITY*
EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS
BE SURE YOUR FIRE IS OUT—DEAD OUT



F-353992

Convenient public camping areas are numerous on the Wyoming National Forest. CCC boys have aided materially in camp-improvement and trail-building programs.

TRAILS INTO BRIDGER WILDERNESS

Visitors who like pioneering will find the rugged beauty and primitive conditions on the Wyoming National Forest exhilarating. At the head of Green River on the west side of the Wind River Range, lies the Bridger Wilderness area, comprising 383,000 acres of mountain country into which no road penetrates.

This area established in 1931 was named in honor of Jim Bridger, pioneer trapper and Indian trader. The purpose of the wilderness classification is "to conserve primitive conditions of environment, habitation, subsistence, and transportation for the enjoyment of those who cherish the early traditions and history of this country and desire to preserve, in some degree, the traits, qualities and characteristics upon which this nation was founded. To make it possible for people to detach themselves, at least temporarily, from the strain and turmoil of modern life, and to revert to simple types of existence in conditions of relatively unmodified nature. To afford

Wyoming National Forest

unique opportunities for physical, mental, and spiritual recreation or regeneration."

The Bridger Wilderness is one of the choicest of its kind, where nature is primitive, unchanged, and undisturbed. Although a few simple trails reach into this realm of wild places and things, there are no roads. Of the hundreds of lakes in this region many abound with fish. During the short season when it is possible to travel the wilderness trails, usually in July and August, the adventurous visitors will reap rare rewards in sport, isolation, and scenic grandeur.

For those who are seeking a stimulating experience, a trip by pack outfit from the end of the auto road at Green River Lake through the Green River Canyon is recommended. The high massive walls towering above the trail, the beautiful lakes, the rushing streams, the wooded slopes and open grassy meadows of the Wind River Range make the trip an experience not soon forgotten. The excellent horse trail passes the base of "Old Square Top," which rises 3,000 feet above the bottom of the canyon. Wildlife, snow banks, and many waterfalls may be seen along the way. The water in Green River is noticeably of a peculiar light green color which, no doubt, gave the stream its name. One so inclined may climb to the glaciers at the very head of the river. The major glacier, lying on the Green River side of the Wind River Mountains, is about 2 miles by one-half mile in extent. Smaller glaciers lie in the immediate vicinity, and on the east side of the mountain are larger ones. Several days are required for the glacier trip. All of this high area shows such typical glaciated topography as ice streams, snow fields, and frontal and lateral moraines and crevasses.

Opportunities for mountain climbing are plentiful throughout the wilderness. Mount Gannett, which towers 13,785 feet about sea level, the highest peak in the State of Wyoming, challenges the most skillful climbers. Many smaller peaks may be ascended with comparative safety.

In making trips into the Wilderness area one passes through a vast, undeveloped territory. Much of the area is within a game preserve, and elk, moose, bear, deer, and mountain sheep remain here summer long, wintering in the lower country. Whether on the pack trail or hiking on pathless ways, one may suddenly startle wild inhabitants which dash through the timber, over the open meadows, or up steep slopes.

From the vicinity of Elkhart Park at Fremont Lake and from Big Sandy Opening near the south end of the area are two other gateways to the wilderness. Dude ranches located on Big Sandy and in the vicinity of Pinedale, Cora, and Daniel maintain horses and equipment, and pack tourists into the wilderness region throughout the summer.

The Greys River watershed is another picturesque area with rugged

Wyoming National Forest

mountain canyons, where beautiful scenery, camping, and good fishing can always be enjoyed. Good horse trails extend throughout all of the western division of the forest and are so blazed and marked that travelers need have no fear of getting lost.

A pack trip of unusual interest may be made from Afton through Swift



F-305905

On Mulligan Park Road forest visitors may pause to enjoy the view of Fremont and Soda Lakes.

Creek by Periodic Spring and across the divide to Greys River. Periodic Spring is a natural phenomenon. With the exception of a short time in June or July, it will flow a large volume of water, perhaps 60 second-feet, for a period of about 18 minutes, and then stop completely for approximately the same length of time. Only seven or eight similar springs are known in the world and the others do not stop completely but tend to fluctuate in their flow.

FOREST CAMPS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Thousands of residents of the nearby valleys and cities, and visitors from distant States come to the national forests each year seeking the forms of outdoor recreation that only mountainous and timbered areas like the Wyoming National Forest can provide.

Wyoming National Forest

Camping, fishing, hunting, and hiking are the principal activities of most such visitors. Only relatively few undertake the horseback trips into the back country. The developed campgrounds along streams and lakes provide for these forest guests the type of accommodations that suit their purpose and purse. These woodland camps, containing only essential rustic improvements, offer the simple and informal types of outdoor living. The



F-275919

Gannett Peak in the center background overlooks the rugged grandeur of the Wind River Mountains.

Forest Service asks only for the observance of simple rules dealing with sanitation, fire prevention, and protection of property. The camp locations are shown on the map contained in this folder. For more information stop at the nearest ranger station.

FIRE IS THE FOREST'S WORST FOE

During the dry summer months, timber is constantly in danger of destruction by fire. In order to prevent this dangerous forest enemy from ravaging the green mantle of the mountains, the Forest Service maintains an organization of fire lookouts and guards which functions much like a city fire department. During the fire season lookout men must be constantly alert

Wyoming National Forest

to locate quickly the first wisp of smoke as it rises above the tree tops and report it at once to the ranger in charge. When a fire call comes by phone or radio the officer in charge immediately dispatches small groups of fire fighters, pack outfits, tools, and provisions to the location of the fire. When a smoke indicates a large fire, bigger crews with more supplies follow. Crews working on forest roads and trails or other improvements are the first detachments of the fire-fighting force. When they cannot cope with the situation, additional help is called and quickly organized from communities and cities throughout the adjacent country. Fortunately the Wyoming Forest has not suffered serious fire losses during recent years.

A high percentage of forest fires are man-caused. Each forest visitor and user is cautioned to be extremely careful with cigarette and cigar stubs, pipe ashes, campfires, and matches. Careful observance of the following fire prevention commandments will aid greatly in keeping the number of fires to a minimum, thus saving human life, valuable timber, wildlife, and beautiful camping places, and will further protect clear mountain streams for domestic use, for fishing, and for irrigation.

1. *Matches*.—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before dropping it.
2. *Tobacco*.—Be sure pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stubs are dead before casting them away. Never throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.
3. *Making camp*.—Before building a fire, scrape away all inflammable material from a spot 5 feet in diameter. Dig a hole in the center, and in it build your campfire. Keep your fire small. Never build it against trees or logs or near brush.
4. *Breaking camp*.—Never break camp until your fire is out—dead out.
5. Your campfire will be out if you do this: Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. If you can't get water, stir in mineral soil instead, and tread it down until packed tightly over and around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.
6. *Brush burning*.—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.

*FORESTS ARE JOBS—TREES MEAN TRADE
PROTECT THEM*

Wyoming National Forest

INSECTS ENDANGER TIMBER STANDS

Insects rank next to fires among enemies of forests. In the Wyoming Forest the mountain pine beetle is a serious menace to lodgepole pine timber and in recent years has exacted a heavy toll. These insects do their deadly



F-335310

Near shores of Titcomb Lakes, visitors view small glacier near crest of Mount Helen.

work by boring through the bark and cutting channels between the bark and the wood. They bring with them the deadly blue stain fungus. When many of these channels are cut, they interrupt the regular flow of the sap and the tree dies quickly.

Each year the Forest Service spends many thousands of dollars spotting the infested trees and cutting and burning or otherwise treating them. Control work holds epidemics in check and saves valuable timber stands for the sawmills and railroad-tie operations. Forest rangers are constantly alert for the tell-tale signs of the brown tops of dying trees among the green of the timber stands, the indication of the work of bark beetles.

Wyoming National Forest

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOREST

When the forest reserves, as national forests were first called, were placed under the administration of the Forest Service in 1905, the Chief Forester received the following instructions from the Secretary of Agriculture:



F-326806

Three speckled California golden trout—samples from the creel of a visitor on Cooks Lake.

"In the administration of the forest reserves it must be clearly borne in mind that all land is to be devoted to its most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people . . . Where conflicting interests must be reconciled, the question will always be decided from the standpoint of the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

That admonition contains the basic principles of Forest Service administration. Forest officials realize that the forests are properties of the people of the United States and must be guarded and managed so that they will be perpetuated. The chief objective is to develop and maintain the timber, range, watersheds, water, wildlife, and recreation areas so that each resource may be utilized and enjoyed by the people of this and coming generations.

Wyoming National Forest

The Wyoming National Forest is divided into seven ranger districts with headquarters located in the following towns:

Cokeville District	Kemmerer, Wyo.
Big Piney District	Big Piney, Wyo.
Sherman District	Big Piney, Wyo.
Bedford District	Bedford, Wyo.
Afton District	Afton, Wyo.
Green River District	Pinedale, Wyo.
Fremont District	Pinedale, Wyo.

The office of the forest supervisor is in the Federal Building, Kemmerer, Wyo., and the headquarters of the regional forester is in the Forest Service Building, Ogden, Utah.

Ask the rangers and forest guards for advice, suggestions and information. They will gladly help you.

BENEFITS TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Because Federal lands included within national forests are not taxable, Congress long ago passed an act to divert 25 percent of the gross revenues



F-309428

Trail riders in the Bridger Wilderness area.



F-253240

"A long, long trail a'winding" to a timber sale area and a pleasant recreation camp. This trail is also used by pack trains carrying supplies to livestock outfits.

Wyoming National Forest



F-353964

Families of livestock permittees visiting summer sheep camps for a vacation, a common practice on the Wyoming National Forest.

from growing timber and other sources to the States and counties for road and school purposes. In addition, 10 percent of such returns are also expended by the Forest Service for roads and trails within the national forests.

The Wyoming forest is also a source of work for many men throughout the open season each year because of the manpower necessary for its management. Construction and maintenance of roads and trails, control of insects, fire protection, and general administrative work all require scores of men who are always drawn from nearby villages and towns. National-forest business, because of its manifold influences, definitely serves an as important economic balance wheel.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
FOREST SERVICE
F. A. SILcox, CHIEF
T. W. MORRISON, CHIEF, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

WYOMING NATIONAL FOREST

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